GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:136
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
SETTING UP OF GRAIN BANKS IN STARVATION PRONE TRIBAL AREAS
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government have decided to set up Grain Banks in starvation prone tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with allocation and release of funds during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have identified starvation prone tribal areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

a)to d) A Central Sector Scheme for setting up of Grain Banks in tribal villages was launched during 1996-97 in selected areas out of the areas identified by Central Planning Committee (CPC) for preventive measures against death of tribal people by providing a safeguard against fall in nutritional standards.

The scheme provides that villagers in identified areas can form a committee and set up Grain Bank in the village. The Government of India provides one time 100% grant for setting up the Grain Banks, @ 100 Kgs of locally consumed food grains per family. The members can borrow from this bank in time of need and repay in kind after harvest or getting income as wages.

The allocations made under the scheme during 1998-99 to 2000-01 are Rs.3.00 crores, Rs. 4.00 crores and Rs. 2.00 crores respectively. Funds are released by TRIFED on receipt of complete proposals from the States alongwith utilization certificates for the grants already released. Details of funds released during the last three years by TRIFED are as under:-

(Rs.in lakhs)

State	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
AndhraPradesh		11.66	
Gujarat	14.72	100.00	
Orissa	100.00	184.96	
Tripura		18.11	

The CPC has identified 370 blocks in 52 districts in 13 States. However, the list is indicative and State Governments can select villages/blocks outside these areas if considered necessary.